

Amendments to the Claims:

A listing of the entire set of pending claims (including amendments to the claims, if any) is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A metal halide lamp for a vehicle ~~headlamp~~ headlamp, comprising:

a cylindrically-shaped discharge vessel ~~(3; 13; 23; 33)~~ along a longitudinal axis ~~(10)~~,

said discharge vessel ~~(3; 13; 23; 33)~~ having a ceramic wall ~~(43)~~ which encloses a discharge space ~~(42)~~ comprising Xe and an ionizable filling, and

a cylindrically-shaped outer bulb ~~(1; 11; 21; 31)~~ surrounding the discharge vessel ~~(3; 13; 23; 33)~~ along the longitudinal axis ~~(10)~~,

characterized in that a portion ~~(25; 26; 35; 36)~~ of a surface of the outer bulb ~~(21; 31)~~ facing away from the discharge vessel ~~(23; 33)~~ is shaped as a negative lens.

2. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The metal halide lamp as claimed in ~~of~~ claim 1, characterized in that the portion ~~(25; 26; 35; 36)~~ with respect to the longitudinal axis ~~(10)~~ encompasses a segment of the outer bulb ~~(21; 31)~~ with a segment angle α in a range between ~~20~~ 20° $\leq \alpha \leq 110^\circ$.

3. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The metal halide lamp as claimed in ~~of~~ claim 1, characterized in that the portion ~~(25; 26)~~ forming the negative lens comprises a flat surface.

4. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The metal halide lamp as claimed in ~~of~~ claim 1, characterized in that the portion ~~(35; 36)~~ forming the negative lens comprises a

curved surface which is less curved than a curvature of a remainder of the outer bulb (31).

5. (Currently amended) ~~A-The~~ metal halide lamp ~~as claimed in of~~ claim 1, characterized in that a first portion and a second portion ~~(25, 26; 35, 36)~~ of the surface of the outer bulb ~~(21; 31)~~ facing away from the discharge vessel ~~(23, 33)~~ are shaped as negative lenses.

6. (Currently amended) ~~A-The~~ metal halide lamp ~~as claimed in of~~ claim 5, characterized in that the first portion and the second portion ~~(25, 26; 35, 36)~~ are at opposite sides of the outer bulb ~~(21; 31)~~.

7. (Currently amended) ~~A-The~~ metal halide lamp ~~as claimed in of~~ claim 5, characterized

in that a transition between the first portion and a remainder of the outer bulb defines a first plane ~~(25A; 35A)~~,

in that a transition between the second portion and the remainder of the outer bulb defines a second plane ~~(26A; 36A)~~, and

in that the first plane ~~(25A; 35A)~~ and the second plane ~~(26A; 36A)~~ make an angle with respect to each other which is equal to or less than 10°.

8. (Currently amended) ~~A-The~~ metal halide lamp ~~as claimed in of~~ claim 5, characterized in that at least one of the portions ~~(25, 26; 35, 36)~~ forming the negative lenses has anti-reflective properties.

9. (Currently amended) A vehicle headlamp comprising a reflector ~~(50)~~ and ~~a-the~~ metal halide lamp ~~(51)~~ ~~as claimed in of~~ claim 1.

10. (Currently amended) A-~~The~~ vehicle headlamp as claimed in ~~of~~ claim 9, characterized in that the portion forming the negative lens is oriented in the direction of portions of the reflector creating a cut-off between an illuminated area and a glare area according to requirements for automotive passing beam patterns.